

AN ACT

relating to the requirements for a smoke detector in multifamily and other residential units.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. This bill is enacted to honor the memory of Sephra Burks.

SECTION 2. Section 92.254, Property Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a) A smoke detector must be:

(1) designed to detect both the visible and invisible products of combustion;

(2) designed with an alarm audible to a person in the bedrooms it serves;

(3) powered by battery, alternating current, or other power source as required by local ordinance;

(4) tested and listed for use as a smoke detector by Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., Factory Mutual Research Corporation, or United States Testing Company, Inc.; and

(5) in good working order.

(a-1) If requested by a tenant as an accommodation for a person with a hearing-impairment disability or as required by law as a reasonable accommodation for a person with a hearing-impairment disability, a smoke detector must, in addition

1 to complying with Subsection (a), be capable of alerting a  
2 hearing-impaired person in the bedrooms it serves.

3 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect January 1, 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1715 passed the Senate on April 17, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 28, Nays 0; and that the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 28, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1715 passed the House, with amendment, on May 20, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 114, Nays 22, one present not voting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor